

Message Text

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51

ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 AID-01 SS-07 NSC-06

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O P 241120Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE 1597

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN PRIORITY

COMIDEASTFOR PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0873

E.O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS : OREP (JONES, J. NORVILL AND ASHWORTH, GEORGE W.)

SUBJECT : STAFFDEL JONES/ASHWORTH

REF : JIDDA 6126

1. WE ARE ARRANGING APPROPRIATE MEETINGS WITH MIDDLE EAST FORCE COMMAND AND EMBASSY MORNING AND LUNCH TIME NOVEMBER 2, OPERATING ON ASSUMPTION STAFFDEL WILL PROCEED TO SAUDI ARABIA LATER THAT AFTERNOON. IN ABSENCE SIGNIFICANT BAHRAINI INTEREST IN U.S. MILITARY EQUIPMENT, STAFFDEL VISIT HERE WILL FOCUS SOLELY ON MIDDLE EAST FORCE ROLE AND OPERATIONS.

2. TENTATIVELY WE ARE PLANNING ON ARRIVAL CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS FROM SAUDI ARABIA AFTERNOON NOVEMBER 2 FOR LATE AFTERNOON AND EARLY EVENING CALLS ON TOP GOB OFFICIALS. THIS VISIT WILL, OF COURSE, PREEMPT TIME OF BOTH SENIOR OFFICERS MIDDLE EAST FORCE AND EMBASSY, LEAVING STFFDEL AT LOOSE ENDS SHOULD IT REMAIN IN BAHRAIN UNTIL NOVEMBER 3. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE MUST PLEAD THE NECESSITY TO SWAP VISITORS WITH SAUDI ARABIA ON THE AFTERNOON OF NOVEMBER 2.

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